

Message Text

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41

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 AID-20 DRC-01 RSC-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 SCS-03

FDRE-00 HEW-08 INR-11 PA-04 PRS-01 SCA-01 SWF-02

AGR-20 EB-11 PM-07 NSC-07 SP-03 SS-20 /164 W

----- 004557

O 131410Z SEP 74

FM AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2874

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MBABANE IMMEDIATE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LOURENCO MARQUES 0790

FOR STATE AND AID; CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY; LISBON FOR AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, SWEL, MZ

SUBJ: DISASTER RELIEF ASSISTANCE FOR MOZAMBIQUE

REF: (A) MULCAHY-WALKER TELCON SEPTEMBER 12; (B) AIDTO CIRCULAR
A-492

1. DR. RUI MERCES BARRETO, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE, INFORMED
US RECENT DISTURBANCES IN AFRICAN SUBURBS OF LOURENCO MARQUES
CREATED A DISASTER RELIEF SITUATION PROPORTION THAT MOZAMBIQUE
GOVERNMENT DOES NOT HAVE RESOURCES TO MEET AT THIS TIME. SOUTH
AFRICAN AND RHODESIAN GOVERNMENTS HAVE ALREADY DONATED FOOD
AND MEDICINES TO MEET CRISIS.

2. DISTURBANCES RESULTED IN VIRTUAL DEPLETION OF FOOD STOCKS
IN AFRICAN SUBURBS AND NEAR TOTAL DESTRUCTION OF NORMAL CHANNELS
OF DISTRIBUTION. PRIMARY NEEDS, THEREFORE, ARE FOR FOOD,
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TRANSPORTATION TO DELIVER FOOD, OR CASH TO GIVE TO HEADS OF

FAMILIES TO PURCHASE FOOD FROM AREAS NOT AFFECTED BY CRISIS. UNLESS FOOD NEEDS ARE MET IMMEDIATELY, CIVIL DISTURBANCES AND LOOTING COULD SPREAD.

3. MOST PRACTICAL SOURCES OF FOOD SUPPLIES ARE MOZAMBIQUE ITSELF (GAZA AND LOURENCO MARQUES DISTRICTS), SOUTH AFRICA AND SWAZILAND. MOST PRACTICAL FOODS ARE SUGAR, RICE, LOCAL CORN MEAL AND MANIOC.

4. WE WOULD LIKE TO EXERCISE DISASTER RELIEF AUTHORITY TO OBLIGATE UP \$25,000 TO HELP MOZAMBIQUE GET FOOD TO AFFLICTED AFRICAN SUBURBS, LEAVING IT UP TO ITS DISCRETION WHETHER TO USE IT TO PURCHASE FOOD OR TO PAY FOR TRANSPORTATION TO DELIVER FOOD. WE ARE NOT PROPOSING TO BECOME INVOLVED IN A CASH SUBSIDY TYPE OPERATION NOR IS THIS A LARGE-SCALE OPERATION. PLEASE ADVISE BY IMMEDIATE CABLE WHETHER WE CAN EXERCISE THIS AUTHORITY BY: A) CONSUL GENERAL'S DETERMINATION; B) AMBASSADOR SCOTT'S DETERMINATION UPON RECOMMENDATION BY CONSUL GENERAL; OR C) ANY OTHER MEANS. WHATEVER PROCEDURE IS CALLED FOR, PLEASE KEEP IN MIND THAT NEED FOR EMERGENCY RELIEF (AS OPPOSED TO REHABILITATION) ASSISTANCE IS IMMEDIATE. TIMELY AID COULD PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN REDUCING SOCIAL TENSIONS IN EMOTIONAL POLITICAL PERIOD AHEAD.
WALKER

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Message Attributes

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